

PROPOSED CLAIM AMENDMENTS - February 2, 2004**U.S. Appl. No. 09/432,192****KUEHN****"Pressure Support System Having a Two-Piece Assembly"****Our Ref.: 99-13**

1. (Currently Amended) A pressure support system comprising:

a first housing member having a first plurality of cavities defined therein;

a second housing member having a second plurality of cavities defined therein,

wherein the first and the second plurality of cavities have complementary configurations such that a cavity from the first plurality of cavities mates with a corresponding cavity from the second plurality of cavities ~~cooperate~~ to define a first chamber, a second chamber, and a first conduit responsive to the first and the second housing members being in an assembled relation, ~~and wherein the first conduit operatively connecting-connects~~ the first chamber and the second chamber in fluid communication ~~responsive to the first and second housing members being in an assembled relation;~~

a pressure generating element disposed in the first chamber and adapted to generate a flow of breathing gas;

a valve disposed in the second chamber and adapted to control a pressure or a flow of breathing gas output from the pressure generating system, wherein the first conduit connects the pressure generating element and the valve in fluid communication; and

a fastening system that secures the first and second housing members in the assembled relation to secure the pressure generating system and the valve within the first and second chambers respectively.

2. (Original) A pressure support system according to claim 1, wherein the first housing member and the second housing member are each defined by a single piece of material.

3. (Currently Amended) A pressure support system according to claim 1, wherein the first and second plurality of cavities cooperate to further define (a) an external coupling and (b) a second conduit operatively connecting the pressure generating element or the valve in fluid communication with the external coupling responsive to the first and the second housing members being in the assembled relation.